

HERMETIC WINDOW ASSEMBLIES AND FRAMES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0289] A frame assembly for hermetic attachment to one side of a sheet of transparent material having a plurality of window aperture areas defined thereon, each window aperture area being circumscribed by a frame attachment area having a predefined plan. The frame assembly comprises a plurality of continuous sidewalls circumscribing a plurality of frame apertures such that some sidewalls are disposed between two adjacent frame apertures. The sidewalls have an upper side plan configured to substantially correspond with the predefined plans of the frame attachment areas of the sheet. The sidewalls disposed between the adjacent frame apertures include two generally parallel sidewall members having an overall vertical thickness and a first connecting tab extending therebetween. When viewed in cross-section taken perpendicular to the plan view, the configuration of the sidewalls disposed between adjacent frame apertures is characterized by the first connecting tab having a relatively constant vertical thickness that is significantly smaller than the overall vertical thickness of the adjacent sidewall members.